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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/009,878	11/13/2001	Pekka Koivukunnas	3397-108PUS	5151

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Michael C Stuart
Cohen Pontani Lieberman & Pavane
551 Fifth Avenue Suite 1210
New York, NY 10176

EXAMINER

HALPERN, MARK

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1731

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A-2

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/009,878

Applicant(s)

KOIVUKUNNAS ET AL.

Examiner

Mark Halpern

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 35-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 36,38-48,50,55,57-71 and 76 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35,49,51-54,56 and 72-75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 37 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1) Applicant's election without traverse of invention drawn on species B and claims 35, 37, 49, 51-54, 56, 72-75, in Paper No. 7, is acknowledged.

Claims 36, 38-48, 50, 55, 57-71, 76, are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 2) Claims 35, 49, 51-53, 56, 72-74, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahonen (6,413,371) in view of Viljanmaa (6,418,840)

Claims 35, 56, 74: Ahonen discloses a method and a machine for manufacture of paper wherein paper stock is fed out of a headbox 100 into a wire 200, where water is drained out to form a paper web W, then the web is passed on to press section 300 for pressing, followed in turn by the dryer section 400 for drying of the web. The web then is coated in a coating section 500, calendered in a calender 700 and reeled in a reel-up 800 (Ahonen, Abstract and Figure 1). The calender is a shoe calender (Ahonen, col. 5,

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line 55), which reads on claimed long-nip calender. Ahonen fails to disclose the step of standardizing a cross-directional thickness of the web across a width of the web to form a standardized web. Viljanmaa discloses a paper web W traveling between two calendering nips N_1 and N_2 placed one after the other. The first nip N_1 is formed between two hard rolls 11A, 11B, such as steel rolls. The hard rolls 11A, 11B, are heatable rolls. Calendering top endless belt 15A includes rolls 11A, 12A, and calendering bottom endless belt 15B includes rolls 11B, 12B. The second nip N_2 is formed between two rolls 12A, 12B, provided with resilient roll coatings 13A, 13B. Owing to the resilient nature of the coatings, the second nip N_2 becomes an extended or long nip. In the first nip N_1 a very high pressure is applied across the width of the web, the effect of which is equal to a machine calender. This reads on standardizing the thickness profile of the web (by a machine calender) prior to the long nip calendering (Viljanmaa, col. 7, line 55 to col. 8, line 68, and Fig. 4). It would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Viljanmaa and Ahonen, because such a combination would provide a means for regulating the thickness of paper product of Ahonen across its width, as disclosed by Viljanmaa (col. 8, lines 10-15).

Claim 49: the web is coated in section 500 prior to calendering in a calender 700 (Ahonen, Abstract).

Claims 51-52, 72-73: the step of web measuring a thickness profile in measuring device 490 prior to calendering in calender 700 is disclosed (Ahonen, col. 5, lines 40-50).

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Claim 53: as shown in Figure 1, the Ahonen process and machine is an on-line set-up.

3) Claims 54, 75, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahonen in view of Viljanmaa, and further in view of Van Haag (5,651,863). Ahonen in view of Viljanmaa is applied as above for claims 35, 56, Ahonen in view of Viljanmaa fail to disclose the step of winding the web onto a storage roll prior to the step of calendering. Van Haag discloses a roller 2 containing a paper web 3, said web is guided to an unwinding station 11 prior to said web being treated in a calender 4 having two sets 6, 7 of heated rollers (Van Haag, col. 4, line 54 to col. 5, line 58, and Figure 1). It would have been obvious, to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Ahonen in view of Viljanmaa with Van Haag into the design of Ahonen, because such a combination would provide an environmentally controlled means of treating the web as disclosed by Van Haag (Abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

4) Claim 37 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reason for indicating allowable subject matter is that the cited prior art does not show a method for producing a calendered product that includes the step of

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standardizing a cross-directional thickness of a web by selectively steaming sections across the width of the web during pressing.

Conclusion

5) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone number is 703-305-4522. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 703-308-1164. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7718 for regular communications and 703-305-3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0651.

May 31, 2003

Mark Halpern
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1731



PETER CHIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER